

## Message Text

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54

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 NEA-11 NIC-01 DRC-01

/150 W

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R 250944Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9519

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 1126

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, CH, JA

SUBJ: PRC ATTITUDE TOWARD US-JAPAN MST

REFS: (A) TOKYO 13894; (B) TOKYO 16515; (C) TOKYO 1047

1. SUMMARY: JSP OFFICIAL KOZO SASAKI, FOLLOWING VISIT TO PRC, TOLD PRESS JAPAN-CHINA FRIENDSHIP ASSN LEADERS SAID TAIWAN CLAUSE OF 1969 SATO-NIXON JOINT COMMUNIQUE VOIDED BY JAPAN-PRC COMMUNIQUE BUT CHINA STILL OPPOSED MST AND SUPPORTS STRUGGLE BY JAPANESE PEOPLE. OTHER EVIDENCE, INCLUDING CHOU EN-LAI'S COMMENTS TO FONMIN OHIRA, INDICATES PEKING PRESENTLY STILL TAKES BENIGN VIEW OF US-JAPAN DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. KOZO SASAKI, MEMBER JSP FRIENDSHIP MISSION TO PRC, TOLD PRESS ON RETURNING JAN 15 THAT EARLIER  
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MISSIONS TO CHINA HAD INCORRECTLY REPORTED THAT

PEKING APPROVED US-JAPAN MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY.  
ON CONTRARY, SASAKI SAID LIAO CHENG-CHIH, PRESIDENT,  
CHINA-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP ASSN, AND VP CHANG HSIANG-SHAN,  
TOLD JSP DELEGATION, QTE TAIWAN CLAUSE CEASED TO  
EXIST AS RESULT OF CHINA-JAPAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE,  
BUT NEVERTHELESS CHINA CONSISTENTLY OPPOSED  
SECURITY TREATY AND SUPPORTS STRUGGLE BY  
JAPANESE PEOPLE. UNQTE

3. SOCIALISTS HAVE BEEN EMBARRASSED ON SEVERAL  
OCCASIONS RECENTLY BY RELATIVELY BENIGN ATTITUDES  
EXPRESSED BY CHINESE TOWARD MST (REFS A AND B); AND SASAKI'S  
FORMULATION WARRANTS INTEREST. LIAO AND CHANG  
MAY HAVE STATED IN PRINCIPLE PRC OPPOSES MST,  
FOREIGN MILITARY BASES, ETC., BUT (AS CHINESE  
APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN SAYING THROUGH LAST AUTUMN)  
THEY QTE UNDERSTOOD UNQTE NECESSITY FOR JAPAN  
TO HAVE DEFENSE LINKS WITH US AS PROTECTION AGAINST  
SOVIETS UNTIL JAPAN DEVELOPED ITS SELF-DEFENSE  
CAPABILITY. SASAKI MAY, FOR HIS OWN POLITICAL  
PURPOSES, HAVE CHOSEN TO IGNORE SECOND CLAUSE  
AND TAILORED HIS REPORT TO HIS OWN POLITICAL STANCE.  
IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT CHINESE ARE CONCERNED  
OVER WIDESPREAD REPORTS AND ATTACKS BY SOVIET  
PROPAGANDA ORGANS TO EFFECT THAT CHINA SUPPORTS  
MST, NATO, US MILITARY PRESENCE IN SEA ASIA, ETC.,  
AND THEY MAY WISH TO CORRECT THIS IMPRESSION  
BY STATING, IN PRINCIPLE, CHINA STILL OPPOSES  
FOREIGN MILITARY BASES, ETC.

4. AS FOR SUBSTANCE OF ISSUE, OTHER, MORE RELIABLE,  
SOURCES CONFIRM BENIGN LINE THAT PEKING QTE  
UNDERSTANDS UNQTE JAPAN'S DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS  
WITH US, ALL THE WHILE NOT CONTRADICTING  
QTE OPPOSITION IN PRINCIPLE UNQTE TO SUCH  
ARRANGEMENTS. CHOU EN-LAI EXPRESSED NO  
OPPOSITION TO US-JAPAN RELATIONS TO FONGMIN OHIRA  
DURING JAN 2-6 VISIT TO PEKING AND, AS REPORTED  
REF C, ADVOCATED FRIENDLY TIES BETWEEN CHINA,  
JAPAN AND US. CHINA DIV HEAD KUNIHIRO, WHO  
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PARTICIPATED IN CHOU-OHIRA TALKS, INFORMED  
EMBOFF THAT CHOU TOLD OHIRA HE HAD PLAYFULLY  
QTE PUT THE SOCIALISTS ON UNQTE IN DISCUSSING MST  
AND HAD CRITICIZED TO THEM THEIR QTE UNARMED  
NEUTRALITY UNQTE CONCEPT AS UNREALISTIC. SOVIET  
THREAT TO JAPAN NECESSITATED DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS  
UNTIL SELF-DEFENSE FORCES WERE ADEQUATE. KUNIHIRO  
SAID CHOU TOLD OHIRA JAPAN SHOULD REARM FOR ITS OWN

DEFENSE.

5. EVEN MORE RECENTLY, DURING LDP DIETMEN MISSION LED BY TAKEO KIMURA, WHICH RETURNED JAN 17, CHOU DISCUSSED MST. TAKU YAMAZAKI, LDP DIETMAN WHO ACCOMPANIED KIMURA, TOLD EMBOFFS CHOU QUITE FRANKLY DESCRIBED QTE BEAR TO NORTH UNQTE AS ENEMY OF JAPAN AND UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR CONTINUATION OF MST. HOWEVER, CHOU ALSO NOTED THAT THIS DID NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF PRC SUPPORT ON OCCASION FOR ANTI-TREATY MOVEMENT IN JAPAN.

6. KAHEITA OKAZAKI, WHO HEADED NOW DEFUNCT MEMORANDUM TRADE OFFICE AND MAINTAINS CLOSE TIES AND FREQUENT CONTACT WITH LIAO CHENG-CHIH AND MANY OTHER CHINESE LEADERS, TOLD EMBOFF UNEQUIVOCALLY JAN 24 CHINESE LEADERS REGARD MST AS DEFENSIVE, NOT DIRECTED AGAINST CHINA, AND THEY DO NOT OBJECT AT ALL.

7. IN CONCLUSION, IT APPEARS TO US THAT EVEN IF CHINESE ARE NOW ATTEMPTING TO PUBLICLY REASSERT A QTE PRINCIPLE UNQTE TO COUNTER SOVIET PROPAGANDA THAT CHINA SUPPORTS US MILITARY ALLIANCES, THEY ARE ALSO REALISTIC ABOUT JAPAN'S DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS AND DO NOT REGARD US-JAPAN CURRENT DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS AS BEING ADVERSE TO CHINESE INTERESTS. WE WOULD WELCOME COMMENT FROM HONG KONG OR OTHER ADDRESSEES. SHOESMITH

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